

From: Francine Stephenson [francine.stephenson@gmail.com]
Sent: 1/23/2018 12:17:06 PM
To: Owen, Jenni [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2282b573e68d40b38bf110b1530db523-jowen2]
Subject: [External] Request - Hearings Regarding ACP Pipeline
Attachments: Report on the ACP Failure to Demonstrate Economic Development Benefit.pdf

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Dear Ms. Owen,

I want to make you aware of a letter I am mailing to the Governor in which I am requesting hearings concerning the claims made by the Atlantic Coast Pipeline on the economic benefits and the need for this pipeline. The contents of the letter follows, along with an attachment written by Nancy LaPlaca titled "The Failure of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline to Demonstrate Economic Development Benefit to the NC Department of Environmental Quality and the Public of North Carolina."

I am asking for your support in the request being made by myself and many others for immediate public hearings in Robeson, Cumberland, and Johnston Counties.

Francine Stephenson

(letter to Governor Cooper)

2012 Raccoon Run

Clayton, NC 27527

January 23, 2018

Governor Roy Cooper

Office of the Governor

20301 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Governor Cooper,

I want to urge you and your staff to take a strong stand against the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP), just as you are doing with offshore drilling.

I am one of many NC citizens asking that you authorize the Attorney General to direct DEQ to immediately initiate public hearings in Robeson, Cumberland, and Johnston Counties to address the economic development concerns and other concerns, claims, and submissions by the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

The proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline is slated to go through my property in Johnston County. I resent the ACP ads touting what a great economic potential this pipeline will be for eastern NC. The phrases being used by “citizens” in those ads are almost direct quotes from ACP promotional materials and they are not backed up by facts. FERC’s conditional (and non-unanimous) approval of the pipeline followed a faulty environmental impact statement, which did not really address whether there is an underlying need for such a pipeline. There has never been a robust and reliable argument substantiating the need for this pipeline (please see attached report “ACP Failure to Demonstrate Economic Development Benefit”), nor is their argument valid when they claim more natural gas is needed for this state.

What a shame if ACP should convince the remaining controlling powers that this pipeline is necessary and thus commit our state to 30+ years investment in the fossil fuel it would carry. The whole world seems to be on the cusp of replacing fossil fuels with alternative energy technologies. We need to move forward in that direction, not backward just to satisfy an investment proposition that is guaranteed not to lose for the component companies and their stockholders and for which electric rate payers will ultimately be penalized.

I am convinced that much of the State’s rivers, wetlands, and ground water will be damaged if this pipeline is constructed. I fear for pipeline explosions, which are occurring nationally at an ever-increasing rate. I cringe to see my plot of land usurped and ruined by this endeavor. Around 200 individual plots are going to be taken just in my county alone, some of which have pristine streams to be crossed and stable wetlands that will be disrupted. Even the air in our state would be contaminated by methane gas guaranteed to leak from any and all such pipelines.

ACP has repeatedly sidestepped your Department of Environmental Quality questions about their claims. I am writing to request that the DEQ hold public hearings in Robeson, Cumberland and Johnston Counties regarding the ACP’s economic development claims and other submissions. These hearings will enable you, the DEQ, and the Attorney General’s office to hear public input about these important questions and to review it as a part of the 401 Water Quality Permit application.

Sincerely,

Francine J. Stephenson

Affected Landowner in Johnston County

Retired NC State Government Employee, 37 Years Service

President, No Pipeline Johnston County

919-553-287